

A metrical description of a fancy ball given at Washington, 9th April 1858. Dedicated to Mrs. Senator Gwin

With the Compts of James J. Chapman

A METRICAL DESCRIPTION OF A FANCY BALL Given at Washington, 9th April, 1858.

DEDICATED TO MRS. SENATOR GWIN.

De Havillauo

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FRANKLIN PHILP, WASHINGTON, 1858.

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This graceful and witty effusion, evidently regarded as too much of a trifle to be acknowledged by its author, has, by acclaim, been considered far too good to be lost.

The polished mind of its author has evidently been inspired by the return of the age of hoops, to commemorate the fascinations of the Belindas of our day, in verses breathing the spirit of the Bard of Twickenham.

A Metrical Glance At The Fancy Ball.

To that gay Capital where congregate The worst and wisest of this mighty State; Where patriot politicians yearly wend, The Nation's fortunes, and their own, to mend; Where snobbish scribblers eke the scanty dole By telegraphing lies from pole to pole; Where bad Hotels impose their onerous tax; And countless Jehus sport untiring hacks; Where Murder boldly stalks, nor cares a straw For useless Police, or unused Law; Where shrieking Kansas whirls her frantic arms To fright the country with her false alarms; Where Gamblers

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bland with Statesmen freely mix, And seem sometimes to make exchange of tricks; 6
Where Impudence and Pertness takes the floor, While modest Merit waits without the
door; Where Party decks the brawling Partisan With wreaths and spoils,—no matter what
the man; Thither, O Mule of Fashion, wing thy flight, And shed the radiance of thy varied
light: Leave thy dear Limbo, in the changing moon, And on thy newly-patented balloon,—
The swift aerial Crinoline,—repair, To regulate the new vagaries there; For Lo! amid the
night of Faction's din, A bright idea lights the mind of Gwin, Bright as the Bow of Promise
on the cloud, Where flashed the lightning, rolled the thunder loud. And fee, responsive to
her welcome call, All parties vie to grace her Fancy Ball.

No carking cares of State can enter here, To damp the spirits or repress the cheer. Frowns
and annoyance are denied the door, And Pleasure rules upon the waxen floor. No Slavery,
but to Beauty, here is seen; Nor Abolition, save of Discord's mein. Chivalric sway all hearts
and minds maintain, From funny Texas up to snowy Maine; And Concord circles, with her
flowery band, All parts and sections of a happy land. 7 Come, and with me survey the
motley crowd, Partake the mirth, and join the laughter loud. Fear not to yield to Pleasure's
syren spells, But gladly borrow Folly's cap and bells: For know,—whate'er may be the
general rule,— 'Tis wisdom's part sometimes to play the fool; And motley here you'll find
“the only wear,” With grave and gay, the homely and the fair.

Appareled thus, in form and spirit, now To the bland Hostess¹ make your grateful bow
— Not California's produce would content The large abundance of her kind intent! Nor
California's boundless mines command The generous hospitality her hand Would scatter
lavishly, with liberal power, To heap the gladness of the festive hour! In regal guise,
nor less with royal port, She smiles sweet welcome to her gathering Court,— The frolic
subjects of a sportive Queen, Whose kindness rules the gay, fantastic scene. Close by her
side, in form and stature great, As well becomes a pillar of the State, With ready tact and
all-attractive art, The good Amphitryon plays his graceful part;

1 Mrs. Senator Gwin.

While near, the daughter of the house, arrayed In the rich costume of a Grecian maid, With charming frankness, and with winning grace, Reflects the kindness of the mother's face; While yonder Page, in splendid Court array, Bespeaks the triumphs of a future day.

Our Pegasus is but a sorry nag; He stumbles oft times, and perchance will flag: To mount Parnassus is but up-hill work, Although one labor like a very Turk. We cannot, therefore, hope to bring in line One half the characters that claim our rhyme; And so—although too like the stupid trick Of that wiseacre who produced a brick As specimen of his house—we're yet compelled To give mere patterns of the things beheld; And group together those who well might claim A special place upon this roll of fame. All those omitted we would but remind That Cato's image once was left behind. Our catalogue's not expected to be right, But 'tis the best that we can now indite. It may be meagre, and not understood; But think, at least, that the intent is good.

Now gaze we round, to note, with dazzled een, The rich ensemble of the brilliant scene;
9 Where every clime, and well nigh every age, Send their gay delegates to crowd the stage; Where myriad hues their gorgeous splendor lend, And Art and Learning Beauty's steps attend, To add fresh lustre to the radiant air, By nature lavished on Columbia's fair. How rich the medley, and how gay the throng! Greek meets with Greek—Turk pushes Turk along; Knights pair with Gipsies—Monks with stately Dames; The Peasant Girl² the gallant Courtier claims; The whittling Yankee,³ all intent on gain, Mates strangely with the azure blood of Spain.⁴ Here the gay Contadina's⁵ eyes will thrill; There the Vivandiere⁶ your heart will fill With thoughts more maddening than the joyous wine, Which pours its gladness from her native vine. There meekly moves the placid Quaker;⁷ here Stalks Caledonia's gallant Mountaineer.⁸ There “Cœur de Lion”⁹ winks at jovial “Tuck,”¹⁰ A Fortune-Teller,¹¹ here, will give your luck.

2 Miss Ouseley.

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3 Mr. E. Baylor of Louisiana.

4 Mrs. Bowlin.

5 Mrs. Senator Thompson.

6 Miss Martin.

7 Mr. Irving.

8 Mr. Cameron.

9 Major De Havilland.

10 Mr. Odo Russell.

11 Mrs. Philips.

But mark attentively yon gathering crowd! There cluster those of whom the country's proud;
10 Historic names and words of present power, Who rule the fortunes of the passing hour.
Lo! in the centre, he who calmly bears, Upon that snowy head, the nation's cares,
The people's chosen "Chieftain,"¹² simply great, In that proud name, beyond imperial state!
Soldiers and Senators of large renown, With Jack Tars,¹³ Lawyers, Editor, and Clown,
Around him gather, a promiscuous troop; There subtle Diplomats together group.
But now in various garb they gaily go, From rich Court costumes down to Pierrot.¹⁴
Among them glitters, with his gallant suite, The brave Commander¹⁵ of the Turkish fleet;
From whose surroundings you may quickly scan The novel era of the Ottoman; No more a rude barbarian is he prized,
But claims his place among the civilized.

12 The President.

13 Mr. John G. Clarke.

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14 M. le Vicomte de Treilhard, M. Dollfus, M. Guiot, M. Gau.

15 The Turkish Admiral.

But this is not a time to moralize; The buzz and glitter claim our ears and eyes. We but attempt the merit of the dog, Fidelity, in this our catalogue. *Exceptis excipiendis*, as they say, In Latin rather barbarous, by the way. 11 Of "Spanish Ladies,"¹⁶ e'en the names, I wist, Would be as long as Leporello's list. Of "Spanish Cavaliers,"¹⁷ there's a goodly store; And two Rancheros,¹⁸ and a Matador.¹⁹ "Italian Peasants" wander without fear, Though "Fra Diavolo"²⁰ is hovering near; And one there was whose eyes would murder more Than that dark "Bravo"²¹ from her native shore. Sly "Gipsies"²² lurk, with larceny in their eye, Though pilfering hearts is not a felony; As things of value they are not esteemed— A mere rag currency that's ne'er redeemed. So give fair play to "Bowlin"²³ and to "Beach,"²⁴ And let them steal—we'll promise not to peach.

16 Mrs. Senator Hale, Mrs. H. F. Clarke, Mrs. Luke Lea, Mrs. Nicholson, Mrs. George Sanders.

17 Lieut. Richmond Aulick, and Mr. Smith.

18 Mr. Trowbridge.

19 Hon. John Cochrane.

20 Mr. Nicholson.

21 Mr. Parkinson.

22 Miss Craig.

23 Miss Bowlin.

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24 Miss Beach.

No more digression—let us go right on, Or e'en this meagre list will ne'er be done.

See yonder Polish Maid,²⁵ her graceful bearing Is yet more charming than the dress she's wearing, Though that, in courtly circles, erst has won The proper praise of taste from every one.

25 Miss Legaré.

12

In contrast strong as that of night and day, Lo! "Pompadour,"²⁶ and "Mistress Popinjay;"²⁷ The "Druid Priestess,"²⁸ and the bright "De Stael;"²⁹ Yon tiny Fairy,³⁰ and that Gallant tall (Though "Harney's" "road to Heaven"* be rather rough, The dashing soldier's made of the right stuff); "Queen Isabella,"³¹ and "Antipholus;"³² Dark "Ravenswood,"³³ with bold "Sir Lucius,"³⁴ But no Lucia; and, in contact silly, See "Falstaff"³⁵ huge, and the sweet "Milk-Maid Milly."³⁶

26 Mrs. Porter.

27 Mrs. Powell.

28 Mrs. Major Sutherland.

29 Mrs. Senator Jefferson Davis.

30 Miss Withers.

* A punishment resorted to by this distinguished officer during the Florida war, is said to have been thus designated.

31 Mrs. G. H. Evans.

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32 Mr. A. H. Evans, and Mr. Birney.

33 Mr. Th. C. Cox.

34 Mr. John Savage.

35 Commander Nelson.

But mark where, strayed from some bright sphere afar, With mildest lustre, shines the
“Morning Star!”³⁷ Endowed with woman's best and dearest grace, A soul seen sparkling
through a radiant face, That “Ready” smile the harbinger will be Of dawning love in all that
look on thee! In kindred loveliness, with richer beams, The bright “Aurora”³⁸ on our senses
gleams; Nor yields to that fair daughter of the Morn, Whom Guido saw on car triumphal
borne.

36 Miss Winder.

37 Miss Ready.

38 Mrs. Senator Douglas.

13

Amid such luminous splendor who could fail To greet the “Sunrise”³⁹ with a joyous “Hail!”

Here “English Hunters”⁴⁰ run their game to earth, And strike the “Key” note of their jovial
mirth; There the glib “Downing”⁴¹ seeks his ranks to fill, And proffers bounty-lands and
wives at will (When, Brigham Young defunct, his household chattels Are at the mercy of
the God of Battles); While bright-haired “Folly”⁴² shakes her cap and bells, To find how
fast her list of votaries swells. Yon “Maid of Athens,”⁴³ if I rightly deem, Will soon among
her followers be seen; For, though she boasts that proud and glorious name, “Above all

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Roman and all Grecian fame," Grace, youth, and beauty, all combine to warn, Not long by her will that great name be borne.

39 Miss Hale.

40 Messrs. P. Barton Key, D. Bradford, and Dr. W. H. Berry.

41 Mr. Poore.

42 The Misses Jennie Tyler and Winder.

43 Miss Washington.

In closest secrecy, to all unknown, That "Arab Maiden"⁴⁴ wanders still alone, Peers through her mantle with a curious eye, And keenly notes the various passers-by; While, sudden bursting from a listening throng, With whittling tool, and sharper cutting tongue,

44 Mrs. B. L. S. Bodichon.

14

Slick "Swipes," with facile pertness, jogs along To where yon "Syren"⁴⁵ breathes her silent song— That fluent music, that melodious grace, Which guide the foot and animate the face. The golden coins which bind her silken hair, Are far less precious than her beauty rare.

45 Mrs Haywood.

Lo! "Clingman,"⁴⁶ from the *coming* century borne! Its "glass of fashion," and its "mould of form." Foreign Relations may admit his skill, But in domestic he is minus still. See saintly "Katherine,"⁴⁷ in her brilliant youth, When fickle Harry won her plighted truth. To her may bitter fortune ne'er impart The sad experience of a wasted heart. There "Grandison,"⁴⁸ with antiquated air, Bows courtly compliments to every fair; And yonder "Walker" shows,

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with graceful ease, The beau-ideal of a "French Marquise;"⁴⁹ While here, by proud hereditary right, Our "Starry Banner"⁵⁰ floats in living light. There "La Dame Blanche"⁵¹ the fable "Denmark"⁵² meets; Here courtly "Buckingham"⁵³ "Ophelia"⁵⁴ greets;

46 Hon. Mr. Clingman.

47 Miss Mechlin.

48 Mr. J. Buchanan Henry.

49 Miss Mary Walker

50 Mrs. Pendleton.

51 Miss Greenhow.

52

53 Mr. Banks.

54 Miss Cheatham.

15

And "Winter"⁵⁵ shows us that sometimes her snows Fall soft as leaflets of the summer rose.

55 The Misses Beale and Booth.

And see, without regard to age or station, A curious group, made up of every nation, Besides such garbs as fancy may devise To give grotesque or picturesque surprise. The "Nine of Diamonds,"⁵⁶ and the "Queen of May,"⁵⁷ And the sweet Queen of Flowers, the charming Ray;⁵⁸ "Midnight,"⁵⁹ and "Night,"⁶⁰ and "Bright Night,"⁶¹ and what not; And of "White Ladies"⁶² a delightful lot; And one among them we might justly

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praise As “tyrannously pretty”—(Browning's phrase); The “Earl of Leicester,”⁶³ sundry “Quakeresses,”⁶⁴ All sorts of “Peasant Girls,”⁶⁵ with flowing tresses, Well-rounded ankles, and enchanting dresses; “King Charles the Second,”⁶⁶ with his curling hair; A tempting “Bar-Maid,”⁶⁷ and a fierce “Corsair,”⁶⁸ “Vandyke,”⁶⁹ and “Rubens,”⁷⁰ “King of Prussia,”⁷¹ too; The “Lone Star,”⁷² and a “Native of Lew Chew,”⁷³

56 Mr. Manley, British Legation.

57 Miss Bascom.

58 Miss Ray.

59 Mrs. Senator Pugh.

60 Miss Scott.

61 Miss Bradley.

62 Mrs. Butler and Miss Greenhow.

63 Hon Charles L. Scott.

64 Mrs. Belser, and Miss Wetherell.

65 Miss Smith, Miss Clayton, Miss Luke Lea, Miss Josie Underwood, and Mrs. Ward.

66 Mr. Bridges.

67 Miss Morgan.

68 Mr. Craig.

69 Mr. M. B. Brady.

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70 Mr. C. King.

71 Col. Magruder.

72 Hon. Mr. Underwood.

73 Lieut. Hammond.

16

A Knight, in spangles and a helm of tin; 74 A "Country Gentleman," 75 and "Harlequin," 76
An "Ellen Douglass," 77 whom, to follow, must Be to her Roland "hope and Heaven and
trust;"* The "Maid of Saragossa;" 78 "Claude Melnotte;" 79 A scalloped "Palmer," 80 and
a "Monkish Sot," The "Lady Charlotte Berkeley;" 81 "Saint Pierre;" 82 While near them,
see, "La Belle Cantiniere" 83 Dispenses her intoxicating laugh, Which many a Peter†
would be glad to quaff! A "Maid of Athens," 84 —she's a duplicate, And bears so well
her Oriental state, There's many a gallant quite content to go The tender "Zoé mou sas
agapo." But here is something curious to be seen, In startling contrast to the crinoline;
"Saya y manta," 85 it is called—Peruvian—And quite improper, and ante-diluvian; As queer
and shocking as the strange bestriding The Liman dames exhibit in their riding. For those
who are too matter of fact we add, We do but jest,—the dress is not so bad;

74 Lt. Thomas Wilson.

75 Mr. J. P. Levy.

76

77

* See Lady of the Lake.

78 Miss Sue Johnson.

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79 Mr. J. D. Hoover.

80

81 Miss Semmes.

82 Hon. Anson Burlingame.

83 Mrs. Senator Thompson.

† See *L'Etoile du Nord*, Act 2, Scene 9.

84 Miss Boyle.

85 Mrs. Bridges.

17

But on the contrary, despite our sling, 'Tis, for a handsome figure, just the thing.

But we digress, and must retrace our way “A nos moutons,” as writeth Rabelais. We note “Count Wintersen,”⁸⁶ —yon “Fillibuster”⁸⁷ Must find his place amid this cluster,— A handsome “Housekeeper,”⁸⁸ whose “humble home” You'd find so “sweet” you would not wish to roam; “Egyptian Soldier,”⁸⁹ and a “Chinaman;”⁹⁰ “Albanian Chief;”⁹¹ “Don Cæfar de Bazan;”⁹² A Court Belle, time of Henry of Navarre;⁹³ The “Knight of Gwynne,”⁹⁴ at a worse Court, by far; A gay “Ranchero,” from Brazilian plains; A part of President Monroe's⁹⁵ remains: That is, the very dress and sword he had, When to the Court of France accredited; And apropos to this, we will go on To name with reverence “Lady Washington.”⁹⁶ 'Tis scarcely right to note with the same pen, A “Maltese Boatman,”⁹⁷ sundry “Highlandmen”⁹⁸ (From the true Cameron Tartan, bran and braw, To play-house costumes, scarcely worth a pshaw);

86 Mr. G. T. Adams.

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87 Mr. S. W. Gillet.

88 Mrs. Greenhow.

89 Mr. H. Ledyard.

90 Lieut. Hammond.

91 Mr. R. B. Bayard.

92 Major W. W. Russell.

93 Madame de Stœckl.

94 Lieut. Mowry, of Arizona.

95 Mr. Kingman.

96 Mrs. Steadman.

97 Mr. Rodgers.

98 Mayor Magruder, Major Sutherland, and Mr. Shaw.

18

Two "Oxford Men,"⁹⁹ in academic gown; And one male Savage, done up very brown; And sundry "Antique Dames,"¹⁰⁰ whose name and station Are truly worthy of commemoration, But that the Muse, a stubborn, wilful jade, And somewhat jealous, will refuse her aid; However, she's but mulish, yet might pass For beast more stupid if she named not "Cass."¹⁰¹

99 Messrs. Hughes and Phillips.

100

101 Miss Cass.

“Lo! the poor Indian!”¹⁰² —“poor, indeed! nay, come, Why, that's the richest costume in the room! It made, pray let me tell you, a commotion At some great ball on t'other side the ocean.” Imported praise is like imported stuff, It brings its price,—the home-made is too rough; But still this costume richly merits praise; The wearer would, although she dressed in baize! “Why, here's another—La! she makes me start, She is so like an Indian! see the part Of her dark hair,—'tis painted red and blue,— The spot upon her forehead,—she's a Sioux; Her dress is perfect, and the knowing tell That it was made by a Dacotah belle.” Ah, “Minnehaha!”¹⁰³ there be those who say There is combined beneath that blanke gay,

102 Mrs. Berg.

103 Mrs. Rogers.

19

Of wit and beauty, and all woman's pride, Enough to furnish richly a whole tribe!

Pray, Monsieur “Cent-Garde,”¹⁰⁴ fee you take good heed, Or that stout cuirass will not serve your need; For triple steel is not sufficient arms Against the witchery of yon Peasant's¹⁰⁵ charms; Call to your aid the Goddess of the Free, And pay your homage to sweet “Liberty,”¹⁰⁶ Under that charming banner, well I wist, “Prince Rupert”¹⁰⁷ would not hesitate to 'list.

104 Dr. Maury.

105 Miss G. Parker.

106 Miss Parker.

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107 Dr. Raney.

Buoyant, and fresh, and fair, and full of grace, "As Eve with nature's day-break on her face,"* Are those two sisters of the storied name, The saddest on the rolls of British fame.

* Mrs. Browning.

See, where, in vain illusion, sweetly moves That soft "Diana"¹⁰⁸ from the western groves,
But sheds around her such a roseate light, "That birds would sing, and think it were *not night.*"

108

Lo! little "Riding Hood,"¹⁰⁹ with artless grace, Reveals the sweetness of her childish face;

109 The Mrs. Sickles and Hughes.

20 And if the wolf's not driven from the door, She knows precisely how to treat a *bore*; And they who "pull the bobbin, lift the latch," Will find a hollers very hard to match!

Mark how the grace that gilds an honored name Gives a strange zest to that loquacious dame, Whose ready tongue, and easy-blundering wit, Provoke fresh uproar at each happy hit! Note how her humour into strange grimace Tempts the smooth meekness of yon "Quaker's"¹¹⁰ face. You'd scarcely guess, beneath that cap so prim, Which decks, not hides, the handsome head within, There lurks a wit as keen, for fools to feel, As is her name to sharpen blunted steel. But denser grows the crowd round "Partington,"¹¹¹ 'Twere vain to try to name them one by one. Among them, he¹¹² whose quick and genial mind By "diplomatic napkin's"* ne'er confined; And she¹¹³ whose sweet and ever-beaming smile Is ne'er assumed in diplomatic guile; There, too, the Knight of the Mysterious Mission¹¹⁴ (For e'en the press don't know his true position): As he "annexed" his gracious Lady¹¹⁵ here, 'Tis hoped he won't oppose our fast career.

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110 Mrs. Major Emory.

111 Mrs. Senator Clay.

112 Lord Napier.

* Vide Speech of Lord Napier (at St., (George's Dinner, N. Y. 1857.).

113 Lady Napier.

114 Sir William Gore Ouseley, K. C. B.

115 Lady Ouseloy.

21

But turn we now to take a parting glance: We cannot note the Supper, or the Dance,
Although the banquet richly might avail To swell the marvels of a fairy tale. 'Tis drawing
near the gray and mystic hour When elves and goblins flit and lose their power; So turn
we, ere she chance to fade away, Before the brightness of approaching day, Where proud
"Titania"¹¹⁶ trips with spritely feet, And smiles in triumph o'er the heart of "Keitt;"¹¹⁷ Who
would not don, for that sweet smile she wears, The longest ears that Donkey ever bears!

116 Miss Withers.

117 Hon. L. M. Keitt.

But pause we here—in vain my Muse would try To paint the various shapes that meet
the eye— Turn where you may, and gaze where'er you will, The gorgeous combination
changes still; A rich kaleidoscope of dazzling forms Enchants the eye, and the rapt senses
warms; Till, pained with beauty, the full heart, oppressed, Demands the kind relief of
nature—rest.

NOTES.

NOTES.

The Poem was originally written for "The Star," of Washington.

The description of costumes is taken from the "Weekly States" of April 17, 1858, and other papers.

"The" "Capital had gathered then Her beauty and her chivalry, and bright The lamps shone o'er fair women and brave men; Hundreds of hearts beat happily; and, when Music arose with its voluptuous swell, Soft eves look'd love to eyes which spake again, And all went merry as a marriage bell."

Some of the happier costumes of the evening were unavoidably omitted in the Poem; those, for instance, of Mr. E. H. Wright, of New Jersey, whose elegantly formed legs displayed to advantage in the dress of a *Bulgarian Peasant*, will not soon be forgotten by those having an eye for form: and

Mr. W. Bodisco, of the Russian Legation, in the appropriate and elegant costume of a *Muscovite Postillion*.

1. Mrs. Gwin received her guests with a courteous affability that set them at ease at once, and removed the embarrassment naturally attendant on entering lighted saloons in fancy dress. Her dress was that of *the queen of Louis Quatorze*, composed of a skirt of white *moire antique*, trimmed with flounces of *pointe d'aiguille*; bodice of the dress trimmed with lace to match flounces; train of cherry satin, trimmed with a ruche of white satin; coiffure of the time of Louis XIV., which added to the fine effect of the costume, so admirably adapted to the noble figure of the lady-like hostess.

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Miss Gwin, who aided in "doing the honors," looked charmingly, in the costume of a *Greek Girl*. White satin skirt and full white satin pantalettes; boots of silver and blue satin. Over the white satin skirt, which is trimmed with strips of cherry satin, was a skirt of tulle trimmed with silver. Tunic and 26 bodice of blue satin, trimmed with silver and blue satin. Necklace of pearls. Hair plaited with pearls, and a Greek cap of blue and white satin, trimmed with silver and two silver tassels. It was a bewitching costume, and charmingly worn.

Miss Carrie Gwin was dressed as a *Page*; white latin trowsers, full to the knee; long stockings of silk; boots of black; coat of maroon velvet, trimmed with gold; cap of velvet and gold, with white plumes.

Senator Gwin, in citizen's dress, was ubiquitous, and unceasing in his endeavors to promote the enjoyment and amusement of his guests, exhibiting a genuine California hospitality.

2. Miss Ousley, an *Italian Peasant Girl*.

"A lovely being, scarcely formed or moulded, A role with all its sweetest leaves yet folded."

3. Mr. E. Baylor, of Louisiana, came as *Hezekiah Swipes*, from Vermont, in ra'al Down-east style, and kept a whittlin' just as tho' he was tu hum.

4. Mrs. Bowlin, of St. Louis, *Spanish Duchess*, an effective and brilliant costume.

5. Mrs. Senator Thomson, of New Jersey, as the "*Belle Cantiniere*," in "L'Etoile du Nord," was universally admired. Her appearance easily explains the conquest of a Throne from the rough Peter, by her prototype.

6. Miss Martin, a *Vivandiere*.

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7. Mr. Richard Irving, *A Male Quaker*.

27

8 Mr. Cameron, in his own Tartan.

9 and 10. Major J. De Havilland, late U. S. Army, as *Cœur de Lion*; O. Russell, Esq., British Legation, as *Friar Tuck*; and Don T. Moreno, Spanish Legation, as *Robin Hood*—forming a group from “Ivanhoe.” “Major De Havilland wearing a veritable suit of massive steel, which became his stalwart frame as though it were clothed in the summer costume of our own times,” as he moved with case through the maze of the dance, “towering as a monarch” over his frolick subjects. Mr. Russell was capitally dressed as Friar Tuck, and sustained his part with jovial decorum, as became that rollicking anchorite. And Mr. Moreno looked the free forester to perfection. This group was considered the most successful among the male costumes of the evening.

11. Mrs. Phillips, of Alabama.

12. The President wore a citizen's dress.

13. Mr. John G. Clarke, in a Sailor's costume. His open, honest countenance admirably suited the character of the frank tar.

14. M. Le Vicomte De Treilhard, First Secretary of the French Legation, sported a *Pierrot's* dress, trimmed with pink satin.

M. Dollfus, Secretary of the French Legation, *Pierrot*, trimmed with blue satin.

M. Gau, of the Prussian Legation, *Pierrot*, trimmed with purple satin.

M. Guiot, Chancelier of the French Legation, *Pierrot*, trimmed with yellow satin. A merry *quartette* did there gentlemen form.

28

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15. The Turkish officers were present *en grande tenue*, the costume of the Admiral almost hidden by heavy gold embroidery. M. Oscanyan, their dragoman, wore a dashing Suliote costume.

16. Mrs. Senator Hale, of New Hampshire, as a *Spanish Duenna*, attracted much admiration; the high comb and veil giving a fine effect to her expressive features.

Mrs. Horace F. Clark, a *Spanish Lady*. Perfect!

Mrs. Luke Lea, a *Spanish Lady*—a most elegant and effective dress.

Mrs. Nicholson, a *Spanish Lady*.

Mrs. George Sanders, of New York, a *Spanish Lady*, in satin and lace, with high comb and mantilla.

Miss Luke Lea, a *Spanish Peasant Girl*. As captivating as Zerlina!

17. Lt. Richmond Aulick, U. S. N., as a *Spanish Student*.

Mr. Smith, of Washington, a *Spanish Cavalier* of the court of Philip II.

18. Mr. Trowbridge, of Louisiana, a *Ranchero*.

Don E. De Muruaga Y Vildósola, *Ranchero*. Ready to “lasso” the hearts of the daughters of America.

19. Hon. John Cochrane, of New York, a *Matador*, and a most gallant-looking one.

20. Mr. Nicholson, *Fra Diavolo*.

29

21. Mr. Parkinson, of New York, *Italian Bravo*.

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22. Miss Craig, of Washington, *Gipsey Girl*.

23. Miss Bowlin, of St. Louis, *Jenny the Gipsey*.

24. Miss Beach, of Hartford, a *Gipsey*, and a most bewitching one at that, dressed with great taste, and creating a decided sensation.

25. Miss Legaré, *Polish Maid*. The costume alluded to was, however, worn by

Mlle. De Montholon. A dress designed, originally, for a Fancy Ball at the Tuilleries, by Her Majesty the Empress Eugenie.

26. Miss Porter, of Lancaster, Pa., *Madame Pompadour*.

27. Mrs. Powell, *Mrs. Popinjay*.

28. Mrs. Major Sutherland, of Washington, *Norma*; and with such a priestess, who would not worship at a Druidical altar?

30

29. Mrs. Senator Davis, as *Madame De Stael*, wore the most correct historical costume of the evening, and very becoming it was. Necker himself would have recognized the mind, as well as the costume, of his daughter.

30. Miss Withers, as *Titania*, caused many a "Mid Summer Night's Dream."

31. Mrs. A. H. Evans, of Texas, as *Isabella, Queen of Spain*, wore a robe of royal blue velvet, trimmed with white ermine and gold lace, with flowing regal sleeves and cape to correspond. On her Catholic Majesty's head was the crown of Spain, studded with jewels, from beneath which hung a profusion of dark rich curls. The long train, as it swept by, attracted general admiration.

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32. Mr. Alex. H. Evans, of Texas, as *Antipholus of Syracuse* (in the Comedy of Errors), was dressed in a scarlet velvet jacket and breeches, puffed with blue silk and trimmed with gold lace; cap, feathers, and cape to correspond. This was one of the most becoming and brilliant dresses in the room.

Mr. Birney, *Antipholus of Ephesus*.

33. Mr. Thomas C. Cox, of Georgetown, *Edgar of Ravenswood*, a showy costume, worn with great ease and grace.

34. Mr. John Savage, of Washington, *Sir Lucius O'Trigger*.

35. Commander Nelson, U. S. Navy.

31

36. Miss Winder, *Milly*, the "Maid with the Milking Pail."

37. Miss Ready, of Tennessee, beamed brightly as the *Morning Star*, and was pronounced by a veteran judge of beauty the most attractive young lady at the ball.

38. Mrs. Senator Douglas, of Illinois, as *Aurora*, was decidedly *la Belle du bal*, and elicited universal admiration.

"Her presence was as glorious as her state; Her beauty of that overpowering kind, Whose face description only would abate: I'd rather leave it much to your own mind Than lessen it by what I could relate Of form and features: it would strike you blind Could I do justice to the full detail—So (luckily for both) my phrases fail."

39. Miss Hale, of New Hampshire, as *Sunrise*, scattered bright and joyous glances wherever she moved.

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"I marvel not, O Sun! that unto thee, In adoration, man should bow the knee And pour the prayer of mingled joy and love."

40. P. Barton Key, Esq., of Washington, an *English Hunter*.

D. Bradford, *English Hunting Dress*.

Hon. I. T. Hatch, New York, *Huntsman*.

Dr. William H. Berry, of Washington, an *English Hunter*; and a most complete costume it was, in every part.

32

41. Mr. Poore, of Massachusetts, *the Merry Monarch*, and, later in the evening, as *Major Jack Downing*, enlisting for the Utah army.

42. Miss Jennie Tyler, of Washington, looked charmingly as *Folly*.

Miss Winder, of Washington, was a bewitching representative of *Folly*, and was justly admired.

"Whom to call Pretty were but to give a feeble notion Of many charms in her as natural As sweetness to the flower or salt to ocean."

43. Miss Washington, *Maid of Athens*.

44. Mrs. B. L. S. Bodichon (née Miss Barbara Leigh Smith, daughter of Benjamin Smith, Esq., late M. P. for Norwich), *Arab Maiden*, certainly one of the best sustained characters in the room.

45. Mrs. Haywood, a *Syren*.

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46. Hon. Mr. Clingman, of North Carolina, as a *Gentleman of the 20th Century*.

47. Miss Mechlin, of Washington, as *Catharine of Aragon*, looked magnificently.

"She in sooth, Possessed an air and grace by no means common; Her stature tall—I hate a dumpy woman."

33

48. Mr. J. Buchanan Henry, as *Sir Charles Grandison*.

49. Miss Mary Walker, of Washington, as a *French Marchioness*, dressed in the elaborate Court costume of Versailles, with hair powdered, and elegant lace, was one of the most charming and noticeable ladies present, and elicited general admiration.

50. Mrs. Pendleton, of Cincinnati, the *Star Spangled Banner*.

51. Miss Greenhow, of Washington, appeared to great advantage as the *White Lady of Avenel*.

53. Mr. Banks, of Virginia, the *Duke of Buckingham*, an attractive and dashing costume.

54. Miss Cheatham, *Ophelia*—a most becoming costume, admirably adapted to the wearer's charms.

55. Miss Beale, *Winter*.

Miss Booth, Stonington, Conn., *Winter*.

56. H. Manley, Esq., Attaché of the British legation, appeared as the *Nine of Diamonds*—a trump card.

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57. Miss Bascom, of Kentucky, looked charmingly as *Queen of May*.

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58. Miss Ray, *Queen of Flowers*.

59. Mrs. Senator Pugh, of Ohio, represented *Night* with great effect, as “she walked in beauty.”

60. Miss Scott, of Baltimore, as *Night*.

61. Miss Bradley, of Washington, appeared as a *Bright Night*—

“Unveiled her peerless night, And o'er the dark her silver mantle flew.”

62. Mrs. Butler, of South Carolina, *White Lady of Avenel*.

63. Hon. Chas. L. Scott, of California, *Earl of Leicester*.

64. Mrs. Belser, *Hannah Prim*, of the Society of Friends.

Miss Wetherell, a *Quakeress* of most demure and fascinating appearance.

35

65. Miss Smith, of Washington, as a *Swiss Peasantess*, looked charmingly, as did her guest,

Mrs. Ward, *Paysanne*.

Miss Josie Underwood appeared as a *French Peasant Girl*, in short white dress, trimmed with red, white and blue, fancy boots, a little hat on one side of her head, long black curls over her neck and shoulders.

66. Mr. Bridges, California, *English Court Dress* of Charles II.'s reign.

67. Miss Morgan, *English Bar-Maid*, of the olden time.

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68. Mr. Craig, a *Corsair*.

69. Mr. M. B. Brady, of New York, looked magnificently as *Vandyke*, in the court dress of his time; a most appropriate costume for an artist.

70. MR. C. KING, Rubens.

71. Col. Magruder, *King of Prussia*.

72. Hon. Mr. Underwood, *the Lone Star*.

36

73. Lieut. Hammond, *Native of Lew Chew*.

74. Lt. Thomas Wilson, a *Knight*.

75. Mr. J. P. Levy, of Washington, an *English Country Gentleman* of the olden time.

78. Miss Sue Johnson, *Maid of Saragossa*.

79. Mr. J. D. Hoover, *Claude Melnotte*.

81. Miss Semmes, of Washington, *Lady Charlotte Berkeley*, a capital and most becoming historical costume.

82. Hon. Anson Burlingame, of Massachusetts, *Julian St. Pierre*—a most becoming costume, gallantly worn.

83. Mrs. Senator Thompson, of New Jersey, as the *Belle Cantiniere*," in L'Etoile du Nord," was universally admired.

84. Miss Boyle, *Maid of Athens*.

37

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85. Mrs. Bridges, in Peruvian Dress,—*Saya y Manta*.

86. J. T. Adams, of Washington, *Count Wintersen*.

87. Mr. S. W. Gillett, of Washington, was a most fascinating *Fillibuster*, and wore one of the most complete and harmonious costumes at the ball.

88. Mrs. Greenhow, of Washington, was a most comely *Housekeeper of the Old School*; and although the costume was not as showy as some, yet the *esprit* of the wearer made her “glorious as a diamond richly set.”

89. Mr. Henry Ledyard, of Michigan, sported a genuine *Egyptian Uniform*, of the pattern worn by the troops of Mahomet Ali.

90. Lieut. Hammond, U. S. N., *Chinese*.

91. Mr. Bayard, of Washington, *Albanian Chief*.

92. Major Russell, *Don Cæsar de Bazan*.

93. Madame De Stœkel, as a *Lady of the Court of Henri Quatre*, with high standing ruff, appeared magnificently, and attracted general admiration.

38

94. Lieut. Mowry, of Arizona, *The Knight of Gwynne at Court*.

95. Mr. Kingman, of Washington, the respected Doyen of the “world of letters,” wore a *Court Dress*, which belonged to and was originally worn by President Monroe.

96. Mrs. Steadman, as *Lady Washington*, not unworthily represented that honored name.

97. Mr. Rogers, a *Maltese Boatman*.

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98. Mayor Magruder, of Washington, a *Highlander*, was a fine representative of "Bonnie Scotland." Among his clansmen was Mr. H. W. Munder, in full Highland garb.

Major Sutherland, *Highland Chief*.

Mr. Shaw, of the New York Herald, *Rob Roy McGregor*.

99. Mr. Hughes, of Virginia, an *Oxford Student*, wore his academical cap and gown with learned dignity.

Mr. Phillips, *Oxford Student*.

101. Miss Cass, of Michigan, was dressed with great taste and elegance, as a *French Marchioness*.

102. Mrs. Berg, of New York, *Indian Princess*. This was, perhaps, the most perfect costume worn, and everything about it was in keeping.

39

103. Mrs. Rogers, *Minnehaha*, a beautiful Sioux costume, worn with graceful ease.

104. Dr. Maury, one of the *Cent Gardes* who are the defence and ornament of the present French Court.

105 and 106. Miss G. Parker, as a *Peasant Girl*, was charmingly dressed.

Miss Parker, of Washington, *Liberty*, and a glorious-looking Goddess she made.

107. Dr. Raney, of South America, wore a fine dress as *Prince Rupert*, that gallant soldier of merry England.

109. Mrs. Sickles, of New York, *Little Red Riding Hood*.

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Mrs. Hughes, of Virginia, was a bewitching *Little Red Riding Hood*, dressed faultlessly, and with great taste.

110. Mrs. Major Emory, a *Quakeress*. So much of heart and mind, mingled in each glance of her eye, that the enthusiasm of Lauzun and his comrades for the Newport belles of a former day was at once explained.

111. Mrs. Senator Clay, as *Mrs. Partington*, with knitting in hand, snuff-box in pocket, and Ike, the inevitable, by her side, acted out her difficult character so as, perhaps, to win the unanimous verdict that her personation of the loquacious *mal apropos* dame was the leading feature of the evening's entertainment. Go where she would through the spacious halls, a crowd of eager listeners followed her footsteps, drinking in her instant repartees, which were really superior in wit and appositeness, and, indeed, in the vein of the famous dame's cacoëthes, even to the original contributions of Shillaber to the nonsensical literature of the day; though Shillaber, as all know, made Mrs. Partington the historical and national character she now deservedly is.

40

112. Lord Napier, was, for the nonce, the Minister of George III., first sent to this country after the close of our war of Revolution. His costume was faultlessly arranged. From the powdered wig dressed as though by the hand of a friseur of that age (when that functionary at an European Court was of even more importance to the happiness of his subjects, than even the chief artiste de cuisine, is now,) down to the unexceptionable "water" of the diamonds in his shoe-buckles, he looked, indeed, the diplomatic courtier of a century ago.

"A cold, good, honorable man, Proud of his birth, and proud of everything— A goodly spirit for a state divan, A figure fit to walk before a king."

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113. Lady Napier, as Mrs. Hammond, *wife* of the first British Minister to America, appeared to great advantage, as she ever does.

114 and 115. Sir W. Gore Ouseley, *Knight of the Bath*, wore his official costume—and a handsome one it is, becoming him well.

“Tall, portly, form'd to lead the courtly van
On birthdays, glorious with a star and string,
The very model of a chamberlain,
And such I mean to make him when I reign.”

Lady Ouseley, *née* Miss Van Ness, as a *French Marchioness*, would have been an ornament to the Court of Versailles.

116. Miss Withers, *Titania*.

117. Hon. L. M. Keitt, of South Carolina, was *Charles XII*.

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